# Your Problems

*By Ann Landers*

**DEAR ANN:** My husband and I used to read your column and laugh. Now we realize that perfectly sane people can get into terrible messes. We are presently having a mess in our own family and we need help.

My mother was left a widow two years ago. She is 63, intelligent and aristocratic looking. Father didn't believe in insurance. He left her a tidy sum of cash and some good pieces of income property.

Two months ago Mother confided she was seeing "a lovely man." She gave no details except that he was an inventor who needed financial backing for patents and attorneys.

On the advice of Mother's banker, my husband checked up on the "lovely man." He has been divorced twice and is now separated from the mother of his four children. His credit rating is poor and he's 20 years younger than Mother.

The picture is all too clear to us. We've let her know what we've discovered and told her she's being taken for a fool. But she insists he's a fine person and she resents us meddling in her affairs. What can we do?—OUT OF WORDS.

* * *

Nothing. Mother has bought this operator's line completely and she's tuning out all interference. The next sound she hears will be the roof—as it comes tumbling down on her aristocratic head.

When the money and the "lovely man" depart at approximately the same moment, she may recognize that it was more than pure coincidence. Save your pipes.

## *Father Fossilized?*

**DEAR ANN LANDERS:** I'm a father whose teen-age children tell me I've become not only petrified, but fossilized as well. I grew up in the Roarin' 20's, and my memory is pretty good, but this modern bunch makes us look like amateurs.

Recently a senior boy had an affair with a junior girl. It led to a hasty marriage, and the baby weighed nine pounds. Within hours of becoming a papa the boy was elected president of the Student Council.

Is this shocking—or am I nuts? I said his election was either an act of charity or it proves the moral fibre of our young people has sagged beyond hope. When I expressed these views, my own children said "Charity nothing! He's a swell kid!"

Now, Ann, either The Old Guard or the teen-ager is right. I'll lower my sights if you say so.—WILL SCRAM.

* * *

Dear Will: Teen-age rebellion and the excitement of nonconformity, plus the emotional climate at school made this boy a shoo-in.

But let's not judge all teen-agers by this group. The majority of them are solid and responsible. The smart aleck element apparently took over on this occasion. In most high schools it wouldn't have worked.

## *Gun-Shy When Sober!*

**Dear Ann:** I've been seeing an interesting fellow an average of twice a week for several months. We've both been through the marital meat-grinder (messy divorces) so I can understand why he's a little gun-shy.

He never speaks of making our relationship permanent, when he's sober that is. However, after several stiff hookers he gets marriage-minded. The next day he makes a point of telling me he was pretty well boiled and not to take anything he said "seriously." Where do I go from here? — CAN'T FIGURE IT.

* * *

My advice is to take HIS advice and don't take the Bourbon babble seriously. Perhaps he does want to marry you, but if he needs to lean on the ol' 90 proof to talk about it, he's too inhibited or scared to be good husband material. Make new friends.

(Ann Landers will be glad to help you with your problems. Send them to her in care of this newspaper enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

## Berlin-Style

West Berlin appears to be vieing with Italy in an effort to wrest the fashion title from France. At the recent showings in West Berlin this striking model wears a lovely creation of intricately draped chiffon and casually carries a richly embroidered evening coat.

## Personal Mention

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Porter leave Saturday for a holiday in California. Mrs. Porter will return at the beginning of March and Mr. Porter will go on to England before returning.

* * *

Mrs. Kathleen Donnelly, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. J. White, and Mrs. O. Harrison, all of Victoria, were among those signing the register at British Columbia House in London during the past week. Miss Sally Gowing of Duncan also called at B.C. House.

*Parents Embarrassed*

# Baby Worth Fortune

LONDON (AP) — If pretty Felicity Couch has a baby in the next eight months she will pocket £20,000.

Nothing doing, says her 39-year-old husband, Leslie.

"And really, the South African physician added, "it's most embarrassing being told when to have your children."

Mrs. Couch, 27 stands to inherit the money under the will of her father, South African shipping tycoon George Henry Starck. He died last October worth £1,489,000. He left Mrs. Couch a sizable packet with the £20,000 as a bonus if she has a baby by Oct. 7 this year.

The Couches already have two children—Glen, three, and Rosemary, two; each gets £10,000 under the will.

"At the moment," said Dr. Couch, "we do not want a third child. My wife is not expecting a baby and it would be impossible for her to have one by October."

Dr. Couch is in London with his family to take a specialist's course in public health.

"This business has caused us much distress," he said. "My wife first heard about it last October and it surprised her considerably. But as we already have plenty of money we aren't going to have our family planning done for us."

# Snorting Peeress Defends Brevity

LONDON (UPI) — Lady Reed, president of the Women's Amateur Athletic Association, clashed with the organization yesterday on the question of form-fitting clothes for lady athletes.

The WAAA warned Britain's muscle girls against wearing clothes that are too brief or revealing.

"Nonsense;" snorted Lady Reed. "I'm all for brief clothing for women athletes, especially if a girl has a good pair of legs—and most of our girls have.

"If a girl has the figure to get away with brief or semi-transparent costumes, I see no reason why she shouldn't wear them."

On one point only she agreed with the association — nylon track suits.

"I understand photographic flashlights make them seem to vanish, just as if the material wasn't there," she said. "I don't think that would be a very good thing."

# Diners Get Choice Of Dessert or Pill

**PHILADELPHIA, Pa. (WNS)—A restaurant here gives diners the choice of dessert or a vitamin tablet of their own selection.**

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*Shopping with Sally*

# *Even Little Girls Rate a Heart!*

Saturday's the day when every girl should have a heart even if she's a toddler. Many a young, young man will hand his heart over if she's dressed in some little outfit that's fresh and new.

Many of our downtown lullaby shops are featuring Valentine specials for the diaper set. For $2.98 you can buy Butch a smart playsuit in white with candy stripe pants, collar and shirt front, and for the young Miss, red corduroy has been made up into a playsuit with a small diamond pattern on white top and lace-trimmed red pants.

* * *

For the size five girl there's a red blazer with snow-white piping that sells for $10.95.

Something feminine, frilly and fancy-free, including the price, are red or white baby doll nightgowns, some lace-trimmed or shirred, with prices ranging from $4.95 to $12.95.

* * *

Don't neglect the men on the 17th — for fun, you might buy them a pair of white boxer shorts or pyjamas with a motif in red, of hearts and "eager beavers." And for a more serious gift, a beautiful robe in red and black, one inscribed in a tiny diamond pattern with tuxedo black satin lapels and another in gold and black figured silk with black quilted lapels and cuffs. The shorts are $1.75, pyjamas $6.95, and robes $16.95.


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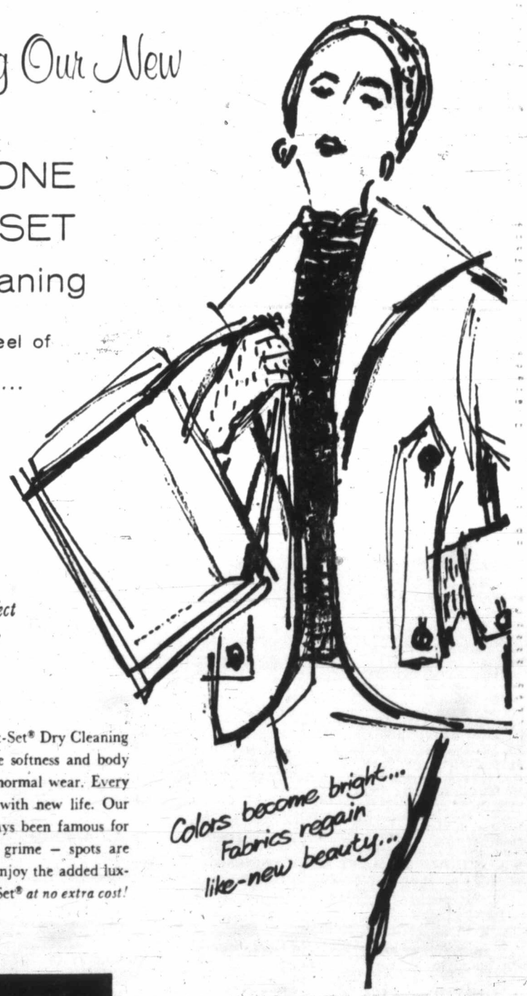

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